

## **PRESS RELEASE ANNOUNCING A PROPOSED PROPERTY TAX INCREASE 2012 FINAL DIGEST**

The Hart County Board of Commissioners today announces its intention to increase the property taxes it will levy for the 2012 Final Tax Digest by 2.97 percentage over the rollback millage rate.

*Each year, the board of tax assessors is required to review the assessed value for property tax purposes of taxable property in the county. When the trend of prices on properties that have recently sold in the county indicate there has been an increase in the fair market value of any specific property, the board of tax assessors is required by law to re-determine the value of such property and adjust the assessment. This is called a reassessment.*

When the total digest of taxable property is prepared, Georgia law requires that a rollback millage rate must be computed that will produce the same total revenue on the current year's digest that last year's millage rate would have produced had no reassessments occurred.

Due to the fact that final Hart County Tax Digest has been delayed for several years, the Hart County Board of Commissioners adopted a temporary millage in October of 2012 through the Hart County Court System. This temporary millage was adopted based on the preliminary digest figures provided. The final digest for 2012 has now been completed requiring the Hart County Board of Commissioners to adopt a final millage for 2012. The Court action that took place on the temporary millage holds that temporary millage as the final millage which is now higher than the rollback millage rate. Per court action no final billing on this final 2012 millage will take place in Hart County.

All concerned citizens are invited to the public hearings on this tax increase to be held at the County Administration Building, 800 Chandler Street, Hartwell, Georgia on Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at 6:00 PM, Tuesday, August 27, 2013 at 5:30 PM, and Tuesday, September 10, 2013 at 5:30 PM.